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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

CHU, K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2651

DATE MAILED: 04/25/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/501,434

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

CHU

Art Unit

2651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Objections

1. Claims 9 and 10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

(a) in claim 9, line 4, the term "draw" should be changed to --drawer--;

(b) similarly, in claim 9, line 6, the term "draw" should be changed to --drawer--; and

(c) in claim 10, line 1, the term "supply location" should be changed to --supply station--.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahle. (U.S. Patent 5,518,325) in view of Munro. (U.S. Patent 5,500,803).

Kahle teaches a compact disc processing system very similar to that of the instant invention. For example, Kahle teaches the following means and steps:

(a) a printer 68 for printing indicia on a first compact disc (Fig. 5);

(b) a recorder 66 for recording information on the first compact disc (Fig. 5);

(c) a storage location 42 for holding a plurality of blank compact disc (Fig. 4); and

(d) a plurality of disc trays (Fig. 5).

However, Kahle does not teach the following:

(a) a transporter carriage for holding the first compact disc and moving the first compact disc between the recorder and printer, the transporter carriage comprises a horizontally rotatable gripping head having first and second locations each for respectively holding the first and second compact disc simultaneously;

(b) a selection mechanism couple to the plurality of disc trays for selectively moving the plurality of disc trays such that the first compact disc can be placed on the selected disc tray for temporary storage;

(c) first and second gripping locations are located on opposite sides of the gripping head and can selectively hold the first and second compact disc;

(d) the disc is rotated to a predetermined rotational position before printing and is placed in a tray for removal by a user;

(e) vertical extending rod, rotating motor; and
(f) a vacuum pump couple to the gripping head to selectively provide a vacuum to the first and second gripping locations.

Munro teaches an automated cartridge system with a transporter carriage having above features (a) to (d) as claimed by the applicant except Munro's gripping mechanism is for tape cartridge.

A typical disc labeling system requires a disc selecting/loading cycle before the disc can be printed. When there is a motivation of reducing waiting time for printing a recording medium loading requests, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use the Munro's automated recording medium gripping system in Kahle's disc printing system, because it will select one medium and load the other medium at the same time.

In addition, Although both Kahle and Munro do not teach mechanical parts such as extending rod, motor, vacuum gripper, such parts are not novel because they are just typical components of a gripping system used in an object moving system. Since both Kahle and Munro disclose a storage medium transportation system involves gripping an object such as an optical disc, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use an extending

rotating rod to transport the disc, to use a rotating motor to drive the gripping mechanism and to use the vacuum generated by the vacuum pump to grip the disc.

4. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C.
20231 or faxed to:

(703) 308-6306, (for formal communications intended for entry) or:

(703) 308-6306, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim CHU whose telephone number is (703) 305-3032.

la 4/20/01

Kim-kwok CHU
Examiner AU2651
April 20, 2001

(703) 305-3032